

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY COLLEGE OF NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH
SCHOOL OF NURSING
POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL**

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Subject: DRUG DOSAGE CALCULATION COMPETENCY		Original Issue Date: 2001	Policy #: 302
		Supersedes: June 1, 2006	Effective Date: April 23, 2007
Committees Consulted: Dean, Administrative & Student Services Admissions/Promotions	Reviewed & Approved by: School of Nursing Faculty Organization Semester Coordinators College Administration	Approved by: (Signature on File) Dean, School of Nursing	

PURPOSE:

To ensure safe Drug Dosage Calculation by students.

POLICY:

Students will complete a Drug Dosage Calculation Competency each semester with a minimum score of 85%.

Students will have only two opportunities to complete the Drug Dosage Calculation Competency.

Attendance is mandatory at the scheduled competency date and time.

- Absence will result in failure of the competency. A second competency will be scheduled.

Failure of the second competency will result in administrative withdrawal from the clinical course.

Students taking the DDCC have the option to use a simple calculator during the test. The calculator must be pre-approved by the Semester coordinator or faculty designee.

- The simple calculator is one that only has functions including and limited to addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, percent, and simple memory function.
- Calculators that are a part of another electronic device [e.g. cellular phone, portable digital assistants (PDA), notebook computer, etc.] are NOT allowed.

Calculators may not be shared during the DDCC.

Use of unauthorized calculators during the DDCC is NOT allowed and may result in disciplinary action on grounds of academic dishonesty.

PROCEDURE:

The competency test will be given as follows:

- Semester 1: week four
- Semester 2: week one
- Transition Course: week two
- Semester 3: week one
- Semester 4: week one

Each competency will consist of 20 questions and the time allotted will be 80 minutes.

Students may not administer any medications until successful completion of the competency.

After failure of the first Drug Dosage Calculation Competency, students will be notified, counseled, given opportunity to remediate with faculty, and given a list of available resources.

A second competency will be scheduled outside clinical/class time within two weeks after notification of failure of the first Drug Dosage Calculation Competency.

Subject:

DRUG DOSAGE CALCULATION COMPETENCY

Students choosing to use a calculator for the DDCC must submit a simple calculator (labeled with the student's name) to the Semester Coordinator or faculty designee no less than 24 hours in advance of the scheduled DDCC.

The Semester Coordinator or faculty designee examines the calculator and returns the approved calculator to the student immediately prior to the scheduled DDCC.

PROCEDURE DOCUMENTATION:

The course instructor will enter pass/fail grade on "Permanent Grade Report – Clinical Courses" form.

REFERENCES:

School of Nursing Policy #300: Grading System

School of Nursing Policy #303: Drug Dosage Calculation Remediation Plan